

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRAGUE 00493 260804Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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R 251425Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9678

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0493

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CZ

SUBJECT: RUMOR OF MOVING OF WFTU HEADQUARTERS

1. UK EMBOFF TOLD CHARGE FEB 24 THEY HAD GOT REPORT OUT OF LONDON RE RUMOR OF POSSIBLE MOVING OF WFTU HEADQUARTERS FROM PRAGUE. (NOTE: EMBOFF WAS PROBABLY NOT UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO RAISE THIS, SINCE HE WAS MERELY ASKING IF WE HAD HEARD ANYTHING, AND UK EMB PRAGUE SHOULD BE PROTECTED AS SOURCE.)

2. UK EMBOFF MENTIONED TWO POSSIBLE REASONS FOR SUCH A MOVE. MOST LIKELY WAS ATTEMPT TO IMPROVE IMAGE OF WFTU AND MAKE IT MORE ACCEPTABLE TO NON-COMMUNISTS. LESS LIKELY WAS GETTING WFTU AWAY FROM STIGMA OF 1968 WHICH STILL ATTACHES TO ANYTHING IN PRAGUE. (WE AGREE THAT LATTER IS UNLIKELY, SINCE SOVIETS ARE TRYING TO HELP CZECHS GET OVER STIGMA OF 1968, NOT RUB IT IN BY SOMETHING LIKE MOVING WFTU.)

3. WE HAVE NOT HEARD ANYTHING ON THIS, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY RUMORS OR INFORMATION OTHERS MAY HAVE PICKED UP.
PERRY

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Message Attributes

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